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CHICAGO--DEPT. OF DEVELOP-
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CHICAGO'S IRISH POPULATION :
SELECTED STATISTICS



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Chicago's Irish Population

Selected Statistics



This report is one of a series of reports on the primary racial/ethnic/language groups in Chicago issued by Chicago's Department of Development and Planning. All reports are based on data from the 1970 census. Other reports in the series include:

Chicago's Black Population
Chicago's Spanish-speaking Population
(in two versions: English and Spanish)
Chicago's Polish Population
Chicago's German Population
Chicago's Italian Population

These reports are available at no cost from the Department.

Also available is a publication describing the pattern of settlement in Chicago by various groups from the founding of Chicago to the present time. This report *Historic City - The Settlement of Chicago* is available from the Department of Development and Planning at a cost of \$3.95 postpaid. A companion report containing census data on foreign born, foreign stock, mother tongue, and race from 1840 to 1970 is available at no cost.

Chicago's Irish Population

Selected Statistics

City of Chicago

Department of Development and Planning

November 1976

The preparation of this report was financed in part through urban planning grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Transportation.



Mayor Richard J. Daley visits an Irish exhibit at the 1976 Chicago Folk Fair.

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Ill. Hist. Survey

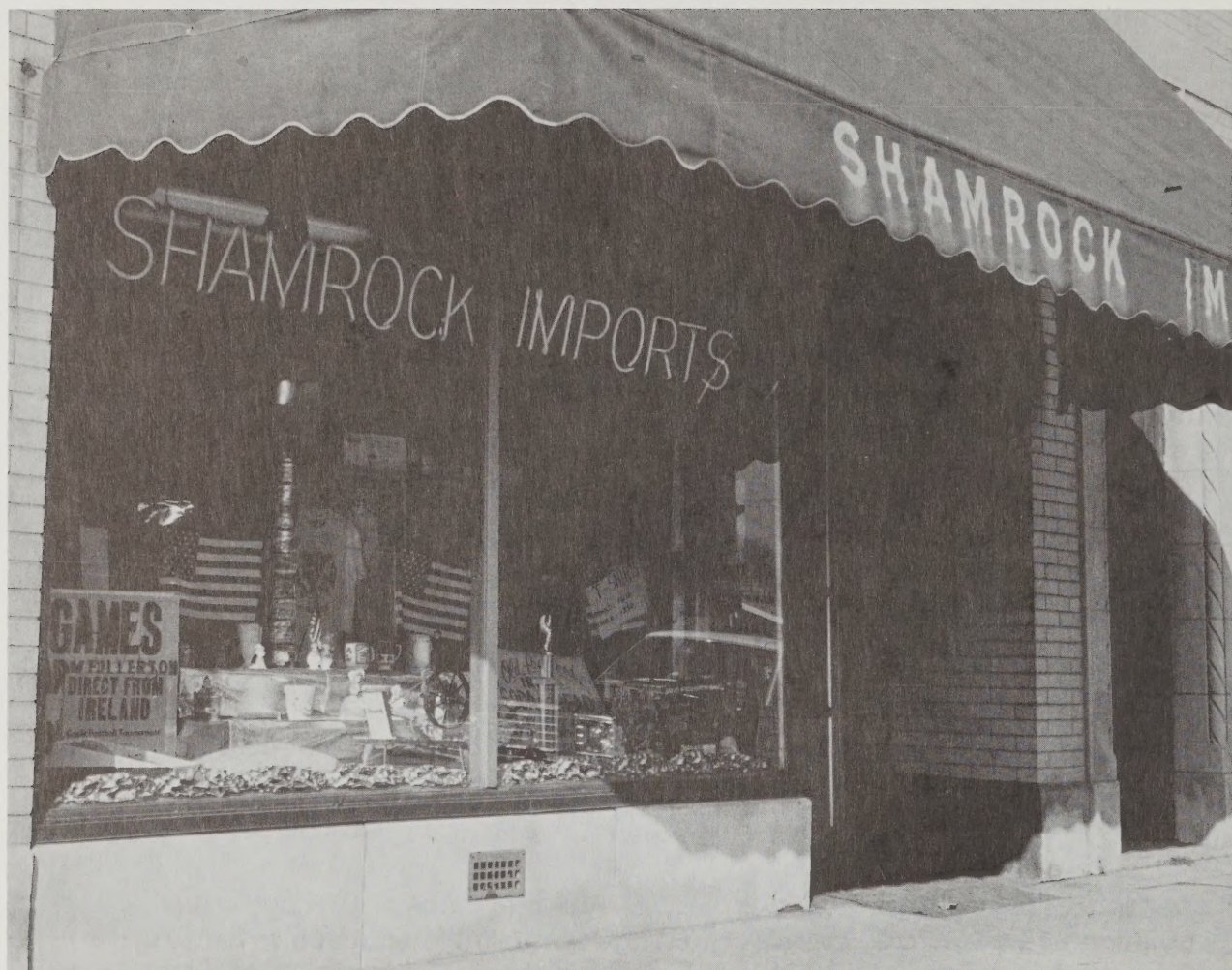
Introduction

This report gives a general description of the characteristics of the Irish foreign-stock population in Chicago in 1970. (Foreign-stock includes the Irish foreign born and the native born of foreign or mixed parentage, i.e., first- and second-generation Irish-Americans.) It, of necessity, focuses on foreign-stock Irish, since census data are not given for third- and subsequent generation ethnic groups. Both southern Irish (Eire) and northern Irish (Northern Ireland) foreign-stock are included in this report.

Data in the report come from two sources -- published census data and a sample of 1970 census data on computer tape. The primary sample size is one-in-a-hundred, or one sample unit (household or person in group quarters, for example) for every one hundred such units in the population. Information about the design of the samples and reliability of the statistics is available upon request from the Research Section of the Department of Development and Planning. The data presented in the tables and figures come from the sample, except in those cases noted at the end of the glossary. Because of the nature of the data, figures given in the published material do not always correspond exactly to those generated from the sample. Whenever this occurs, a notation is made in the text.

This report describes general population characteristics of Chicago's Irish population as well as characteristics on age and family, education, housing, income, and occupation and industry. Comparisons are made between Chicago's foreign-stock Irish and those in the suburban portion of the Chicago Standard Consolidated Area (SCA), between the Chicago Irish and Chicago total population, and between the suburban Irish population and the total suburban population. (The SCA includes Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties in Illinois and Lake and Porter counties in Indiana. The word "suburbs," as used throughout, means that portion of the SCA which excludes the city of Chicago.)

Census terminology used in this report is explained in the Glossary.



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General Profile of Chicago's Irish Foreign-stock Population, 1970

In 1970, Chicago was home to 4% of the nation's Irish foreign-stock population. Irish foreign stock, 52% of whom were women, 48% men, made up 2% of the city's total population.

Eighty-eight percent of the city's foreign-born Irish had become U.S. citizens. Of the native born, 90% were born in Illinois. Ninety-two percent of Chicago's foreign-stock Irish listed English as their mother tongue, 6% listed Gaelic, and 2% other languages. (Mother tongue is defined by the Census Bureau as the language spoken in the home when the individual was a child.)

While 65% of Irish Chicagoans lived in the same house in 1970 as they had in 1965, 29% had moved from different quarters in Cook County since 1965.

Chicago's Irish population was much older than the general Chicago population, with a median age of 48.8 years contrasted to 29.6 years.

The dependency ratio of the Irish was nearly the same as that of the general population: 1.6 (working people, 15-64 years old) to 1 (dependent person under 15 or over 64) vs. 1.7 to 1.

Fifty-nine percent of the Irish were married, compared to 53% of all Chicagoans.

Irish families in Chicago were much less likely to contain children under 18, or minors, than all families, 40% vs. 51%. Ninety-one percent of Irish families with children were husband/wife families, contrasted to 78% in the general city population. Only 6% of Irish families with minors, compared to 20% of all such Chicago families, were headed by women.

Irish adults in Chicago had more formal education than adults in the general population: 52% compared to 44% had finished high school. Among Chicago Irish, 81% of the elementary and 65% of the high school students attended private or parochial schools, compared to 24% and 27% of the total student population. The dropout rate for Irish youths was lower than that for all youths: 15% for the Irish vs. 24% for all youths.

Fifty percent of Irish and 35% of total Chicago households owned their own homes. Median home value for the Irish was slightly lower than all homeowners (\$20,900 compared to \$21,200). Chicago's Irish renters paid about the same in median gross rent (\$122) as did all renters (\$121). The median size of Irish households was 2.3 persons, virtually the same as that of total households, 2.4 persons.

Irish foreign-stock families in Chicago had a higher median income (\$13,400) than Chicago families as a whole (\$10,200).

Only 4% of Chicago's Irish families reported incomes under the poverty level, contrasted to 11% for all families. (The poverty index, adopted by a federal interagency committee in 1969, classified a nonfarm family of four with an annual income under \$3,743 as being below the poverty level in 1969. Income data in the 1970 census are based on 1969 incomes.)

The unemployment rate for Chicago Irish (3%) was slightly less than for all Chicagoans (4%) in 1970.

Irish in Chicago were more likely to be employed as sales and clerical workers, service workers, and craftsmen, than the general employed population; less likely to be professionals and managers or operatives and laborers.

Sixteen percent of Chicago's Irish workers compared to 6% of all Chicago workers were employed by government. Only 15% of Irish workers were employed in manufacturing contrasted to 32% of all Chicago workers.

General Population Characteristics

TOTAL POPULATION

There were 1,450,220 persons of Irish foreign-stock in the United States in 1970. Six percent of these, a total of 93,458 persons, lived in the Chicago Standard Consolidated Area (SCA). Sixty percent (59,400 -- 33,300 women and 26,100 men) of the SCA's Irish foreign-stock population lived in Chicago, making Chicago home to 4% of the nation's Irish population; while 40% (40,700 -- 21,700 women and 19,000 men) lived in the suburbs and represented 3% of the country's foreign-stock Irish.

Chicago's Irish foreign stock made up 2% of the city's total population; 76% (42,646) were native born, 24% (13,766) were foreign born. (See Table 1 and Figure 1, which figure shows the distribution of the Irish foreign-stock population within the city of Chicago.)

Irish foreign stock represented 1% of the suburban population; 86% (31,763) were native-born, 14% (5,283) were foreign born. Among the larger suburbs, the greatest concentrations of foreign-stock Irish were in Oak Park (2,609), Oak Lawn (2,119), Evanston (763), Elmhurst (674), and Joliet (660).

Irish were first enumerated in census reports for Chicago in 1843, at which time there were 773 foreign-born Irish in the city (see Table 2). Irish immigration to Chicago was strong through most of the last half of the nineteenth century, particularly in the 1860's and 1880's when 20,103 and 25,617 persons, respectively, were added to Chicago's Irish foreign-born population. By 1900, the foreign-born Irish population reached a peak of 73,913. Since then it has declined steadily to 14,709 in 1970, as immigration slowed and earlier Irish immigrants either moved out of the city or died.

The census listed foreign-stock Irish in Chicago for the first time in 1890, at which time the 169,912 foreign-stock Irish constituted 15% of the city's population. The numbers of foreign-stock Irish reached a high of 208,728 in 1900, and, like those of the foreign-born, declined steadily to 59,218 in 1970.

A survey conducted in the Chicago SMSA in 1975 indicated that there were 110,000

Chicago residents who considered themselves to be of Irish extraction. Additionally there were 210,000 suburbanites of Irish extraction. There is no comparable data for 1970 so there is no direct way of comparing the population of Irish ethnicity over the five-year time period.

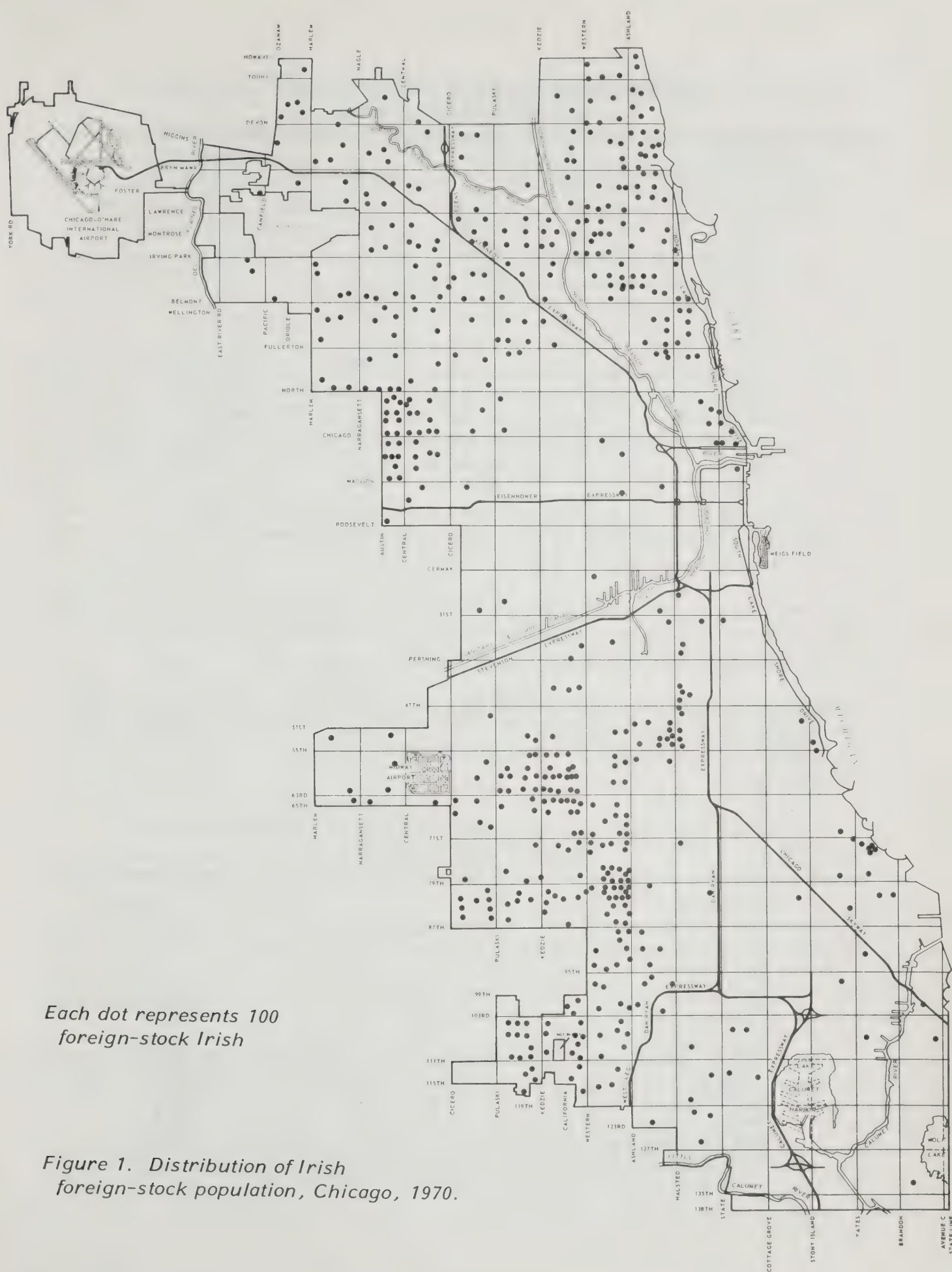
TABLE 1. IRISH FOREIGN-STOCK POPULATION, CHICAGO, SUBURBS, AND CHICAGO SCA, 1970

Place	Total Population	Percent Foreign Stock	Foreign Stock		
			Total	Foreign Born	Native Born
CHICAGO	3,362,947	1.7	56,412	13,766	42,646
Suburbs	4,244,843	0.9	37,046	5,283	31,763
Chicago SCA	7,607,790	1.2	93,458	19,049	74,409
Arlington Heights	62,842	0.8	510	18	492
Aurora	74,437	0.6	419	48	371
Berwyn	52,502	1.0	516	66	450
Cicero	67,058	0.7	465	61	404
Des Plaines	57,539	0.8	434	38	396
Elgin	55,701	0.4	220	13	207
Elmhurst	50,439	1.3	674	57	617
Evanston	79,878	1.0	763	149	614
Joliet	78,527	0.8	660	27	633
Oak Lawn	60,300	3.5	2,119	377	1,742
Oak Park	62,506	4.2	2,609	390	2,219
Skokie	68,543	0.8	535	140	395
Waukegan	65,289	0.6	385	63	322
East Chicago, Ind.	46,979	0.2	95	10	85
Gary, Ind.	175,270	0.2	344	45	299
Hammond, Ind.	107,758	0.3	370	60	310

ORIGIN AND NATIVITY

Of the foreign-born Irish who lived in Chicago in 1970, 8% had immigrated before 1915, 49% had arrived between 1915 and 1944, and 36% had arrived between 1945 and 1964. More recently, 3% arrived in the United States between 1965 and 1969. (See Table 3.)

Immigration patterns of suburban Irish were somewhat different. Nineteen percent had arrived before 1915, 39% had arrived between 1915 and 1944, 36% had arrived between 1945 and 1964. Two percent had immigrated to America between 1965 and 1969.



*TABLE 2. FOREIGN-BORN AND FOREIGN-STOCK IRISH POPULATIONS,
CHICAGO, 1843-1970*

Year	Foreign Born	Foreign Stock
1843	773	N.A.
1850	6,096	N.A.
1860	19,889	N.A.
1870	39,992	N.A.
1880	44,411	N.A.
1890	70,028	169,912
1900	73,913	208,728
1910	65,965	204,821
1920	56,786	199,956
1930	54,789	193,555
1940	40,308	N.A.
1950	30,555	126,940
1960	N.A.	85,120
1970	14,709	59,218

Eighty-eight percent of the foreign-born Irish in Chicago had obtained U.S. citizenship; 12% were still aliens in 1970, and none, in the sample, was born in Ireland of parents who were American citizens (see Table 4).

Suburban foreign-born Irish tended to be U.S. citizens with less frequency (81%) than did Chicago's foreign-born Irish. Seventeen percent remained aliens in 1970, and 2% were born in Ireland of American parents.

*TABLE 3. YEAR OF IMMIGRATION OF FOREIGN-BORN IRISH,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Year of Immigration	Chicago	Suburbs
1965-1969	2.8%	1.7%
1955-1964	15.2	15.7
1945-1954	20.7	20.3
1935-1944	1.4	1.6
1925-1934	30.1	26.6
1915-1924	17.9	10.9
Before 1915	7.6	18.8
Not reported	4.3	4.4

*TABLE 4. CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF FOREIGN-BORN IRISH,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Citizenship Status	Chicago	Suburbs
Naturalized U.S. citizen	88.3%	81.2%
Born in Ireland of U.S. parents	0.0	1.6
Alien	11.7	17.2

The overwhelming majority (90%) of Chicago's second-generation Irish were born in Illinois, 4% were born in another state in the north central region of the United States, 4% were born in the northeastern region, 1% each were born in the southern region and overseas American possessions or at sea, and less than 1% were born in the western region. (See Table 5.)

The second-generation Irish population in the suburbs presented a similar pattern: 81% were born in Illinois, 12% in the rest of the north central region, 6% in the northeastern United States, and 1% were born in each of the south and west regions, and in overseas American possessions or at sea.

*TABLE 5. BIRTHPLACE OF SECOND-GENERATION IRISH,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Region	Chicago	Suburbs
Illinois	90.3%	80.5%
Other North Central states	3.5	11.7
Northeastern states	4.2	5.7
Southern states	0.7	0.9
Western states	0.4	0.6
Abroad or at sea	0.9	0.6

MOTHER TONGUE

Ninety-two percent of Chicago's foreign-stock Irish listed English as their mother tongue. The rest indicated Gaelic (6%) or another language (2%) as their mother tongue (see Table 6).

Irish suburbanites were slightly more likely than Irish Chicagoans to indicate English (94%) or another language (3%) as their mother tongues and slightly less likely to list Gaelic (3%).

*TABLE 6. MOTHER TONGUE OF FOREIGN-STOCK IRISH, CHICAGO
AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Mother Tongue	Chicago	Suburbs
English	92.4%	93.9%
Gaelic	5.6	3.2
Other languages	2.0	2.9

MIGRATION PATTERNS

Sixty-five percent of Irish Chicagoans had lived in the same house in 1965 as in 1970, contrasted to 52% of all Chicagoans. Twenty-nine percent of the Chicago Irish and 34% of all Chicagoans had lived in a different house in Cook County in 1965. Fifty-five percent of suburban Irish and 54% of all suburbanites lived in the same house in 1970 as they had in 1965; 30% and 25%, respectively, had moved from another house in the same county since 1965 (see Table 7).

*TABLE 7. PLACE OF RESIDENCE FIVE YEARS AGO, IRISH AND
TOTAL POPULATIONS AGED FIVE AND OVER,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Residence	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Same house	64.6%	52.4%	54.6%	54.1%
Different house, same county	29.1	33.8	30.3	25.0
Different county, same state	0.0	0.8	4.4	6.6
Different state	2.9	4.1	5.1	8.5
Abroad	0.4	2.5	0.3	1.0
Moved, residence not reported	3.0	6.4	5.3	4.8

Age and Family Characteristics

AGE COMPOSITION

Chicago's Irish foreign-stock population was much older than the total city population. The median age for the Irish was 48.8 years, compared to 29.6 years for Chicago's population in general.

The Irish foreign-stock population in the suburbs was slightly older than that in the city, and over twenty years older than the general suburban population, 48.9 years vs. 27.0 years.

Six percent of Chicago's Irish foreign stock was 0-4 years old, 14% were 5-19 years old, 57% were 20-64 years old, and 23% were 65 years old or over.

Four percent of suburban Irish foreign stock were the 0-4 year category and 9% in the 5-19 year old category; 63% were 20-64 years old, and 24% were over 65. (See Table 8.) Figures 2 and 3 graphically display the age-by-sex-structure of the Irish in Chicago and the suburbs in relation to the total population in both areas.

DEPENDENCY RATIO

The Irish have a dependency ratio similar to the general Chicago and suburban populations. Dependency ratio is defined as the ratio of persons aged 15-64 to persons under 15 and over 64. In other words, it is the number of persons in their working years (active population) for each of those in their nonworking years (dependent population). The dependency ratio for Chicago's Irish was 1.6 to 1, compared to 1.7 to 1 for the general population in Chicago. The suburban Irish had a dependency ratio of 1.8 to 1 in contrast to 1.6 to 1 for the general suburban population.

FAMILY STRUCTURE

In terms of marital status, Chicago's foreign-stock Irish differed somewhat from the total city population. As can be seen from Table 9, 59% of the Irish aged 14 or older were married, compared to 53% of all Chicagoans. Also, 17% of the Irish were widowed, 2% divorced, 1% separated, and 20% had never married. Compar-

TABLE 8. AGE STRUCTURE OF THE IRISH POPULATION, CHICAGO
AND SUBURBS, 1970

Age Group	Chicago	Suburbs
0- 4	5.7%	4.3%
5- 9	6.1	3.9
10-14	4.4	2.5
15-19	3.7	2.3
20-24	3.0	1.2
25-29	4.5	3.7
30-34	5.6	7.1
35-39	5.1	9.1
40-44	6.7	8.6
45-49	6.7	8.8
50-54	7.1	9.6
55-59	8.8	7.4
60-64	9.8	7.1
65-69	7.9	8.8
70-74	4.7	5.8
75+	10.2	9.8

able figures for the general city population were: 10% widowed, 5% divorced, 4% separated, and 28% had never married.

Seventy percent of the suburban Irish and 65% of the general suburban population were married. Thirteen percent of the Irish and 6% of the total population were widowed, 2% and 3%, respectively, were divorced, 1% of both groups were separated, and 14% and 25%, respectively, had never been married.

Irish men in Chicago were much more likely to be married than Irish women; they were less apt to be widowed or never married. Women were more likely to be divorced, but both sexes tended to be separated with about the same frequency.

Irish men were much more apt to be married than Chicago's total male population; they were more likely to be widowed, less apt to be divorced or separated. However, the percentage of males in Chicago's general population who had never married was much larger than that of Irish males. This could be a function of the older age structure of the Irish population. Suburban Irish men were also more likely to be married or widowed than all suburban males; they were divorced or separated with the same frequency, and had never married with less frequency.

Irish women 14 years of age and older in Chicago were less likely to be married, separated, divorced, and never married than women in the general population and much more apt to be widowed. Suburban Irish women were just as likely to

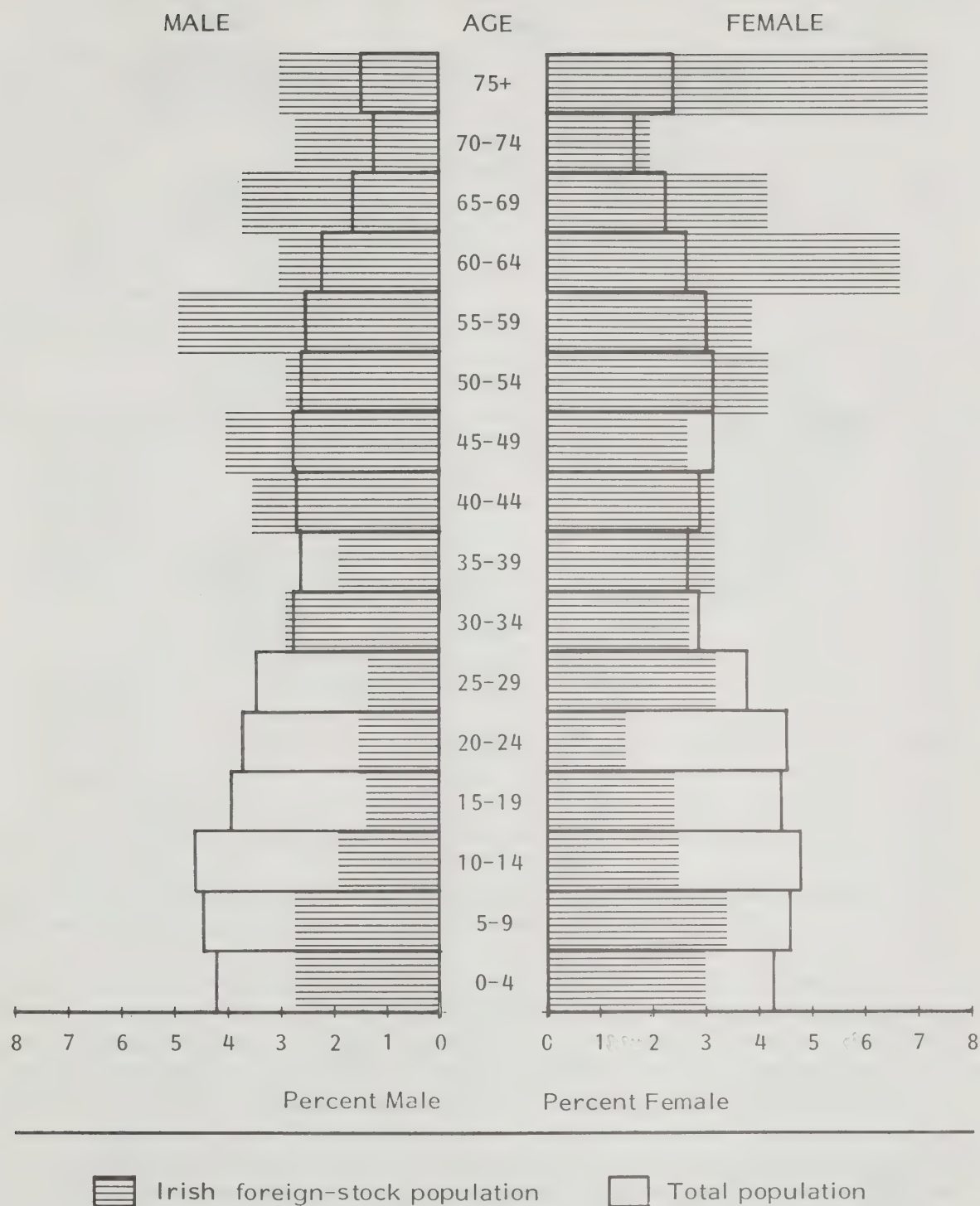


Figure 2. Age/sex structure, Irish foreign-stock and total population, Chicago, 1970

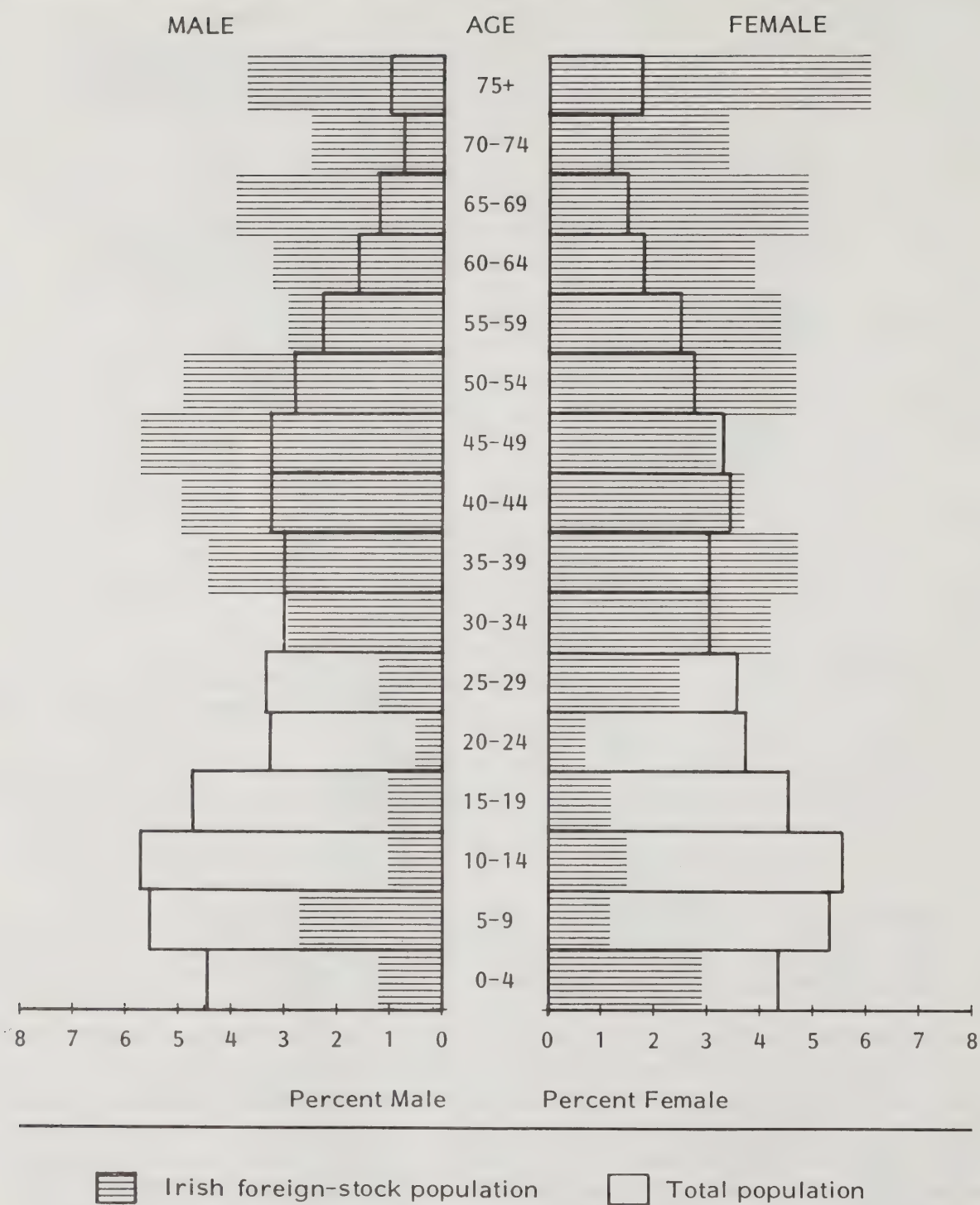


Figure 3. Age/sex structure, Irish foreign-stock and total population, suburbs, 1970

TABLE 9. MARITAL STATUS, IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS AGED 14 AND OVER, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Marital Status	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
<i>ALL PERSONS</i>				
Married	58.9%	53.1%	69.7%	65.3%
Separated	1.3	4.1	1.3	0.9
Widowed	17.2	9.7	13.1	6.3
Divorced	2.2	4.7	2.2	2.7
Never married	20.4	28.4	13.7	24.8
<i>MALES</i>				
Married	72.0%	57.1%	76.6%	67.2%
Separated	1.9	2.9	0.6	0.8
Widowed	7.3	4.2	7.6	2.3
Divorced	1.4	3.9	2.3	2.2
Never married	17.4	31.9	12.9	27.5
<i>FEMALES</i>				
Married	48.8%	49.7%	63.6%	63.4%
Separated	1.1	4.9	2.0	1.2
Widowed	24.7	14.6	17.9	10.0
Divorced	2.8	5.4	2.1	3.2
Never married	22.6	25.4	14.4	22.2

be married, more likely to be widowed, or separated, and less apt to be divorced or never married than the general female population in the suburbs.

Those who have never been married fall heavily in the younger age group, 14-30, which is underrepresented in Chicago's Irish foreign-stock population. When figures on marital status are recalculated to eliminate those persons who have never married, the relationships change somewhat. Among those people who have ever been married, the Irish in Chicago were just as apt to be married than all other Chicagoans (74%). On the other hand, Chicago Irish were less likely to be divorced than all Chicagoans (3% vs. 7%) and much more likely to be widowed (22% vs. 14%). Among suburbanites who had ever been married, the Irish were less apt than suburbanites in general to be married (81% vs. 87%) or divorced (3% vs. 4%) and almost twice as likely to be widowed (15% vs. 8%).

Irish families in Chicago were much less likely to contain children under 18 (minors) than all Chicago families: only 40% of the Irish families had children under 18,

compared to 51% of total Chicago families. Of those Chicago families with minor children, more Irish families (91%) than all families (78%) were husband/wife families. Only 6% of Chicago Irish families with children had a female head, contrasted to 20% for all Chicago families. Three percent of Irish families and 2% of total families with children had unmarried male heads (see Table 10).

TABLE 10. IRISH FOREIGN-STOCK AND TOTAL FAMILIES WITH MINOR CHILDREN, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Family Type	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
<i>FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18</i>				
Husband/wife	91.0%	78.0%	93.4%	92.5%
Female head	6.4	19.9	4.0	6.4
Unmarried male head	2.6	2.1	2.6	1.1
<i>FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 6</i>				
Husband/wife	100.0%	81.0%	97.0%	95.4%
Female head	0.0	17.7	3.0	4.0
Unmarried male head	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.6

More Irish suburban than city families had children under 18 (51%), as did total suburban families (60%). Irish and total suburban families with children under 18 were husband/wife families with the same frequency (93%). There were fewer female-headed suburban Irish families (4%) than total suburban families (6%), although the contrast was not as great as in Chicago. Three percent of Irish families and 1% of total families with children had unmarried male heads.

Eighteen percent of Chicago Irish families and 25% of total families had children under 6 years of age. According to the sample, of those Irish families with children under 6, 100% were husband/wife families, compared to 81% for total Chicago families. The sample indicated that no Irish families in Chicago with children under 6 had female or unmarried male heads, contrasted to 18% and 1% of the Chicago total families with children under 6.

More Irish suburban families (22%) than Irish city families (18%) had children under 6; but so did total suburban (28%) compared to total city families (25%). Ninety-seven percent of Irish suburban families with children under 6 were husband/wife families, contrasted to 95% of total suburban families. Three percent of suburban Irish families with children had female heads as did 4% of total families. In the sample, none of the Irish suburban families had an unmarried male head, contrasted to 1% of the total families.

Education

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

Irish adults 25 years old, or older, in Chicago had more formal education than their counterparts in the general population. Among foreign-stock Irish, 52% had finished high school, compared to 44% of the rest of the population.

Native-born Chicago Irish had a much better education than foreign-born Irish, and exceeded the educational attainment of the total Chicago population. While 81% of first-generation Irish had finished eighth grade, 94% of second-generation Irish Chicagoans had done so, as had 82% of the total population. Twenty-eight percent of the foreign-born Chicago Irish, 63% of the native-born, and 44% of the total Chicago population had finished high school. More native born had also finished college (11%) than foreign born (2%), or total Chicagoans (8%) (see Figures 4 and 5).

Interestingly, Chicago's Irish women 25 years old or over had received more formal education than Irish men: 91% vs. 90% had finished eighth grade, 55% vs. 49% had finished high school, and 9% vs. 8% had finished college. In addition, their educational attainment was significantly higher than that of their female counterparts in Chicago's total population. For example, 55% of Irish women, compared to 43% of the women in the total population, had finished high school; 9% vs. 6% had finished college.

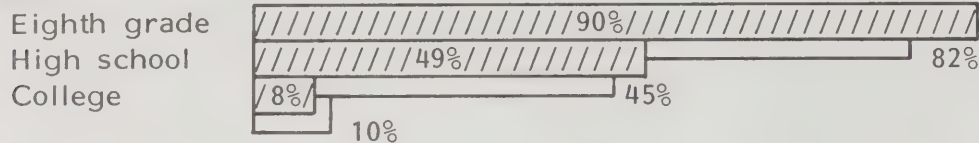
Ninety percent of Chicago's Irish males had finished eighth grade, compared to 82% of the men in the total population; 49% vs. 45% had finished high school. However, 10% of the total men vs. 8% of the Irish men had finished college.

Irish who lived in the suburbs were even better educated than the Irish who lived in Chicago; furthermore, their level of educational accomplishment was higher than that of the total suburban population. This is particularly noticeable at the college level, where 19% of the Irish had finished college, compared to 14% of the total suburban population. Unlike the case of the Chicago Irish, suburban Irish men were better educated than suburban Irish women. In fact, over a quarter (27%) of suburban Irish males had finished college.

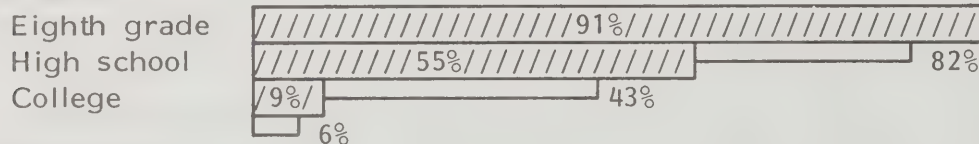
Other recent research, based on a set of national samples containing all age groups, has shown nationally that the educational attainment of the Irish has risen rapidly over the past half-century. (1) Indeed, since at least 1910, young Irish-American Catholics have been attending college with even greater frequency than the national average for their age groups (59% vs. 43% by the 1960's).

CHICAGO

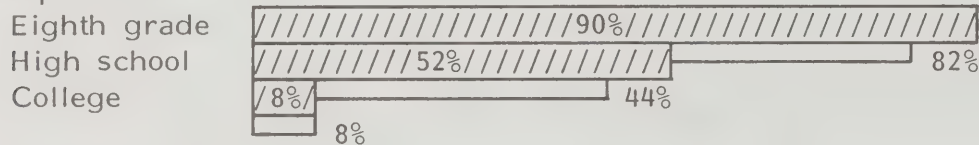
Males



Females

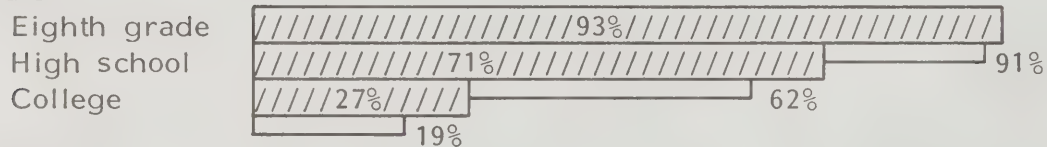


All persons

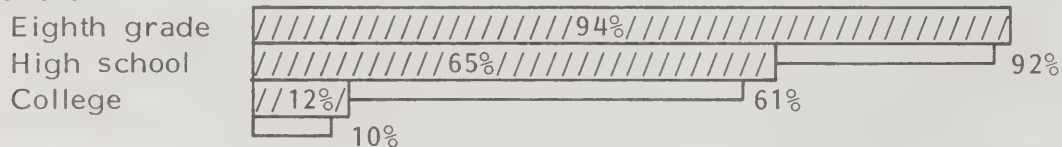


SUBURBS

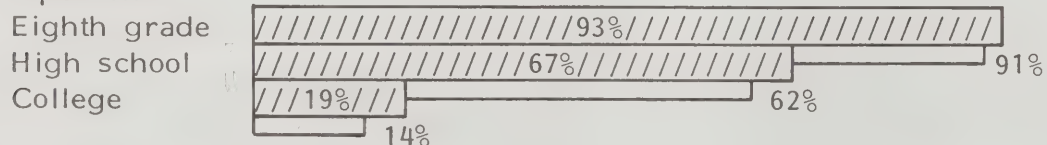
Males



Females



All persons



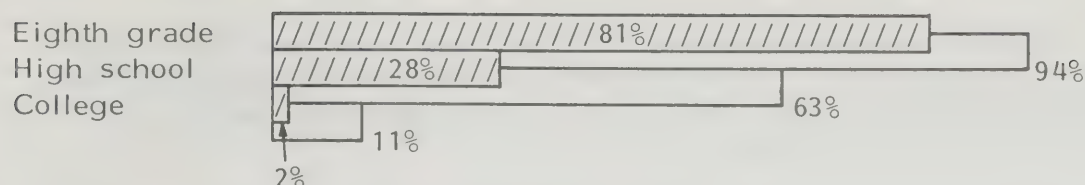
Irish

Total population

Figure 4. Educational attainment, Irish and total populations aged 25 and over, Chicago and suburbs, 1970

1. Andrew M. Greeley, *Ethnicity, Denomination, and Inequality; A Bicentennial Report to the Ford Foundation* (Chicago: Center for the Study of American Pluralism, National Opinion Research Center, 1975).

CHICAGO



SUBURBS

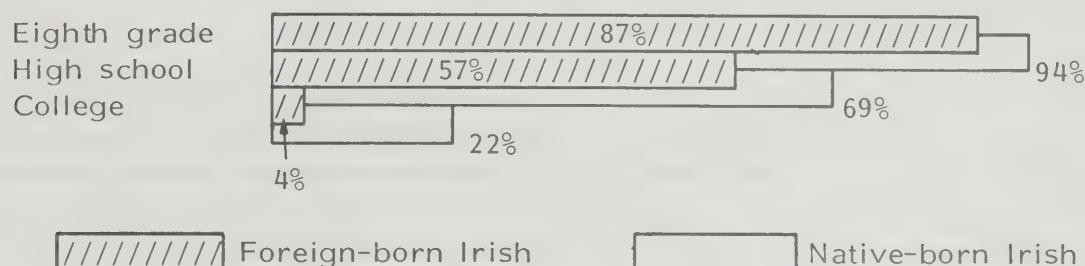


Figure 5. Educational attainment, foreign-born and native-born Irish aged 25 and over, Chicago and suburbs, 1970

PUBLIC OR PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Among the Chicago Irish under 34 years of age who were attending school, there was a much greater tendency to use private or parochial schools than among the total Chicago population under 34 which was attending school. Eighty-one percent of the Irish elementary and 65% of the high school students were enrolled in private or parochial schools, contrasted to 24% and 27%, respectively, of Chicago's total student population (see Table II). Suburban Irish students under 34 were less apt to seek a private or parochial school education than their city counterparts in the same age group. Thirty-three percent of the Irish elementary and 56% of the high school students were enrolled in private or parochial schools, compared to 18% and 13%, respectively, of total suburban students.

TABLE 11. IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS UNDER AGE 34 ENROLLED IN PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

School Level	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Elementary	81.4%	23.7%	33.3%	17.9%
High school	65.0	26.7	55.6	12.7

DROPOUTS

Table 12 shows that 15% of all Irish youths 16-25 years old were high school dropouts, contrasted to 24% of the total city population in the same age group. Dropouts in the suburbs were fewer for 16-to-25-year-olds in both groups: 10% for the Irish vs. 12% for all youths.

Chicago's Irish males dropped out of school with greater frequency than Irish females (20% vs. 13%). Irish males in the suburbs also were more likely than females to have been dropouts (14% vs. 8%).

*TABLE 12. HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS, IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS
AGED 16-25, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970*

Group	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
All persons	15.4%	23.6%	10.0%	12.4%
Males	20.0	23.1	14.3	12.4
Females	12.5	24.1	7.7	12.3



Housing

FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Fifty percent of Chicago's Irish households owned their own homes, while 50% rented. This was a higher frequency of home ownership than that among total Chicago households -- 35% of which owned their own homes, 65% of which rented. Seventy-nine percent of Irish suburban households and 72% of total suburban households owned their own homes. Twenty-one percent of Irish suburban households rented, contrasted to 28% of total suburban households. (See Table 13.)

TABLE 13. OCCUPANCY STATUS, IRISH AND TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Occupancy Status	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Owner-occupied	50.0%	34.8%	79.2%	71.9%
Rent for cash	49.3	64.0	20.3	26.8
No cash rent	0.7	1.2	0.5	1.3

The median gross rent paid by Chicago's Irish households (including households that paid no cash rent) was \$122, compared to \$121 for all Chicago households. Fewer Chicago Irish households (78%) paid \$80-\$199 in rent than did total households (80%). Fourteen percent of Irish households in Chicago paid less than \$80 in gross rent, contrasted to 13% of general households. The two groups paid over \$200 with about the same frequency, 8% vs. 7%. Seventy percent of suburban Irish households and 76% of all suburban households paid \$80-\$199 in rent. The two groups paid less than \$80 with about the same frequency, 8% vs. 7%. Twenty-two percent of suburban Irish households and 17% of the total suburban households paid over \$200 in rent. (See Table 14.)

The median value of homes owned by Chicago's Irish households (\$20,900) was slightly lower than that of those owned by all households (\$21,200). The median

**TABLE 14. GROSS MONTHLY RENT FOR IRISH AND TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
PAYING CASH RENT, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970**

Gross Rent	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
\$ 1-\$ 79	14.3%	13.1%	8.1%	7.4%
\$ 80-\$ 99	13.5	16.1	2.7	9.3
\$100-\$119	19.6	19.5	10.8	12.1
\$120-\$149	21.8	27.5	19.0	21.4
\$150-\$199	22.6	17.3	37.8	33.0
\$200+	8.2	6.5	21.6	16.8

value of suburban homes was higher for both groups. Homes owned by Irish were valued at \$27,100, contrasted to \$24,400 for those owned by the general suburban population (see Table 15).

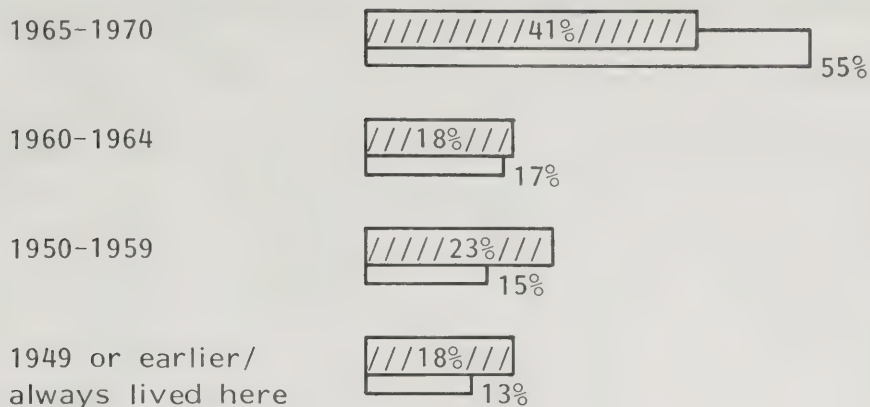
**TABLE 15. HOME VALUE, IRISH AND TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970**

Home Value	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Under \$15,000	17.6%	16.0%	9.3%	13.0%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	26.5	27.4	13.8	19.2
\$20,000 - \$24,999	33.3	27.3	20.0	20.0
\$25,000 - \$34,999	18.6	22.2	32.3	25.8
\$35,000 - \$49,999	3.0	5.8	13.8	14.5
\$50,000+	1.0	1.3	10.8	7.5

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE

Of Chicago's Irish households, 18% either had always lived at their 1970 address or had moved there prior to 1949, compared to 13% of the total population. Twenty-three percent of the Irish and 15% of total households moved into their 1970 quarters in the period from 1950 to 1959. Eighteen percent of the Irish and 17% of all households moved in during 1960-1964. In more recent years, 1965-1970, 41% of the Irish and 55% of total households moved into their 1970 housing. Thirteen percent of the suburbs' Irish households had always lived at their 1970 address or moved there prior to 1949. Twenty-three percent had moved in from 1950 to 1959, 19% had moved in during 1960-1964, and 45% between 1965-1970. Of the total suburban households, 11% had always lived at their 1970 address or moved there prior to 1949. Eighteen percent had moved in during the period 1950-1959, 19% had moved in during 1960-1964, and 52% from 1965-1970 (see Figure 6).

CHICAGO



SUBURBS

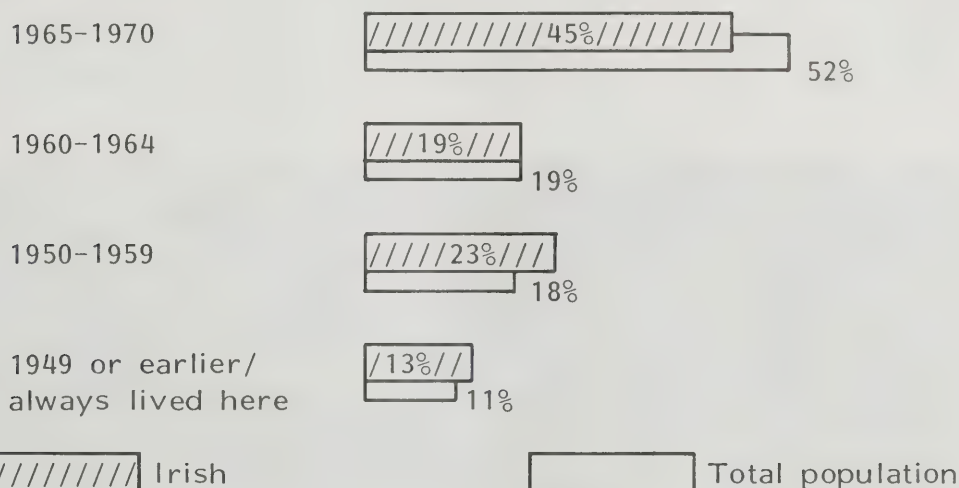


Figure 6. Year moved into unit, Irish and total populations, Chicago and suburbs, 1970

HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND OVERCROWDING

The median household size for Chicago's Irish population (2.3 persons) was slightly smaller than that for the city's total population (2.4 persons). The same held true for the Irish (2.9 persons) and total suburban populations (3.1 persons). (See Table 16.)

Households with more than one person per room have been considered overcrowded by the Census Bureau since 1960. According to this definition, 8% of Chicago's Irish households were overcrowded, contrasted to 10% in the total population. Even though overcrowding among total suburban households was less pronounced than in the city (7%), it was still higher than among Irish suburban households (6%).

TABLE 16. HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND OVERCROWDING OF IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Household Size	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
1 person	28.9%	24.8%	17.0%	12.3%
2 persons	28.1	28.6	27.5	27.1
3 persons	14.1	16.2	15.4	18.0
4 persons	11.1	12.5	14.3	18.2
5 persons	5.2	7.8	11.0	12.2
6 persons	4.8	4.5	5.5	6.5
7 persons	3.0	2.7	4.4	3.1
8 persons	1.5	1.9	3.8	1.6
9 persons or more	3.3	1.0	1.1	1.0
Households with more than 1 person per room	7.8%	9.9%	5.5%	7.3%



Income

FAMILY INCOME

Irish foreign-stock families in Chicago had a median income (\$13,400) that was 31% higher than Chicago families as a whole (\$10,200). Suburban Irish families also had a higher median income than the total suburban family population, but the difference was much less: \$14,500 compared to \$13,100, or 11%.

Eighteen percent of Chicago's Irish families earned less than \$7,000, contrasted to 29% of all Chicago families. Comparable figures for suburban Irish and total families were much closer: 16% vs. 14% (see Table 17). While 39% of Chicago Irish families had incomes of \$15,000 and over, only 23% of all Chicago families did. In the suburbs, almost half the Irish families (47%) had incomes of \$15,000 or more, compared to 38% of all suburban families.

TABLE 17. FAMILY INCOME, IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1969

Family Income	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Less than \$ 4,000	9.0%	13.5%	10.1%	5.9%
\$ 4,000 - \$ 6,999	8.5	15.3	6.1	7.7
\$ 7,000 - \$ 9,999	15.4	19.6	8.8	15.0
\$10,000 - \$14,999	28.2	28.3	28.4	33.8
\$15,000 and over	38.9	23.3	46.6	37.6

INCOME OF UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS

The incomes of unrelated individuals aged 14 and over are shown in Table 18. Unrelated individuals are defined as those persons not living with relatives, but living in a household entirely alone or with one or more unrelated persons, or living in group quarters (except institutional populations). Such individuals of

**TABLE 18. INCOME OF IRISH AND TOTAL UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS
AGED 14 AND OVER, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1969**

Unrelated Individuals' Income	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
Less than \$ 4,000	59.3%	50.4%	63.3%	52.7%
\$ 4,000 - \$ 6,999	14.6	23.9	15.0	20.0
\$ 7,000 - \$ 9,999	15.6	15.1	15.0	14.8
\$10,000 - \$14,999	6.3	7.5	5.0	9.0
\$15,000 and over	4.2	3.1	1.7	3.5

Irish foreign stock in Chicago had a lower median income (\$3,400) than those in the total population (\$3,900). The same held true in the suburbs. Although median incomes for both groups were lower, the Irish unrelated individuals' median income was \$3,400 compared to \$3,700 for all unrelated individuals in the suburbs.

POVERTY

Among Chicago Irish families, only 4% had incomes under the poverty level, contrasted to 11% of all Chicago families. While 32% of Chicago female-headed families had incomes under the poverty level, only 21% of female-headed Irish families did. It is interesting to note that more Irish suburban families (5%) were under the poverty level than Irish city families, even though the percentage of all suburban families in poverty was only 4%. The percentage of female-headed Irish families and female-headed suburban families in poverty was identical (17%) (see Table 19).

**TABLE 19. IRISH AND TOTAL FAMILIES WITH INCOMES BELOW
POVERTY LEVEL, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1969**

Family Type	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
All families	4.2%	10.7%	5.4%	3.6%
Husband/wife	1.9	5.9	2.4	2.5
Female head	20.8	32.4	16.7	16.6
Other male head	0.0	7.6	30.0	6.0

Labor Force

PARTICIPATION RATE

Chicago Irish participated in the labor force to a higher degree than did Chicagoans as a whole, 72% contrasted to 68%. (For purposes of this report, the labor force is defined as the sum of those persons aged 16-64 who are classified as employed, unemployed but actively seeking employment, and members of the Armed Forces.) Ninety-one percent of Chicago's Irish males and 56% of Irish females were in the labor force, compared to 84% of all Chicago males and 53% of all Chicago females (see Table 20). However, the suburban Irish population participated in the labor force with slightly less frequency than the general suburban population, 66% vs. 68%. Ninety-two percent of

TABLE 20. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT,
IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS AGED 16-64,
CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Group	Percent in Labor Force		Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
<i>CHICAGO</i>				
All persons	71.6%	67.5%	2.7%	4.1%
Males	90.6	84.0	2.1	4.1
Females	56.1	52.7	3.6	4.1
<i>SUBURBS</i>				
All persons	66.3%	68.1%	0.0%	2.7%
Males	92.2	89.4	0.0	2.1
Females	41.5	47.4	0.0	3.9

suburban Irish males were in the labor force, as were 89% of all suburban males. However, the participation of suburban Irish females (42%) was less than Chicago's Irish women or all suburban women (47%) .

UNEMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rate for Chicago Irish (3%) was slightly less than that for all Chicagoans (4%) in 1970. Irish men in Chicago had a lower rate of unemployment than Chicago males as a group, 2% vs. 4%. The unemployment rate for females in both groups was 4%. In the sample, the unemployment rate for Irish suburbanites was 0%, that for all suburbanites, 3%.

OCCUPATION

Of those Chicago Irish who were employed in 1970, the largest group worked as sales and clerical workers (39%) . Service workers made up another 20%; professionals and managers, 14%; craftsmen, 14%; and operatives and laborers, 13% (see Table 21 and Figure 7) . Among the general population of employed Chicagoans, the largest group was also sales and clerical workers (30%) , followed by operatives and laborers (26%) , professionals and managers (18%) , service workers (13%) , and craftsmen (13%) .

As was the case for all Chicagoans, Irish men were more apt than Irish women to work as craftsmen (22% vs. 2%) and operatives and laborers (21% contrasted to 2%) , but less likely to work as sales and clerical workers (20% compared to 65%) . It is interesting to note that contrary to the general Chicago population a larger proportion of Irish women than men were professionals and managers (16% vs. 14%) , and fewer were likely to be service workers (15% vs. 23%) .

The occupational structure among Irish males contrasted sharply with that of Chicago males in general. Irish males were underrepresented among professionals and managers and greatly underrepresented among operatives and laborers. They were overrepresented among sales and clerical workers and particularly among service workers. The occupational structure among Chicago's Irish females was generally similar to that among all Chicago women, except that Irish women were far more likely to be sales or clerical workers and far less likely to be operatives or laborers than were all Chicago women.

Suburban Irish were much more apt than their Chicago counterparts to be professionals and managers, and less apt to be sales and clerical workers, operatives and laborers, and service workers. In comparison to all suburban workers, the Irish were less likely to be operatives and laborers and more likely to be professionals and managers and sales and clerical workers.

INDUSTRY

Chicago's Irish workers were employed most frequently in the professions (22%) ,

TABLE 21. OCCUPATION OF EMPLOYED IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS
AGED 16 AND OVER, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Occupation Group	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
<i>ALL PERSONS</i>				
Professionals & managers	14.3%	17.8%	34.5%	26.4%
Sales & clerical workers	39.4	30.2	33.3	28.3
Craftsmen	13.7	12.6	14.8	15.7
Operatives & laborers	12.7	26.4	7.2	19.8
Service workers	19.9	13.0	10.2	9.8
<i>MALES</i>				
Professionals & managers	13.7%	18.8%	40.6%	30.3%
Sales & clerical workers	20.4	16.8	24.0	16.4
Craftsmen	22.4	20.0	20.3	23.5
Operatives & laborers	20.5	32.4	9.8	23.4
Service workers	23.0	12.0	5.3	6.4
<i>FEMALES</i>				
Professionals & managers	15.6%	16.3%	21.0%	19.5%
Sales & clerical workers	65.4	49.4	53.3	49.9
Craftsmen	1.7	2.1	3.2	1.8
Operatives & laborers	1.9	18.0	1.6	13.3
Service workers	15.4	14.2	20.9	15.5

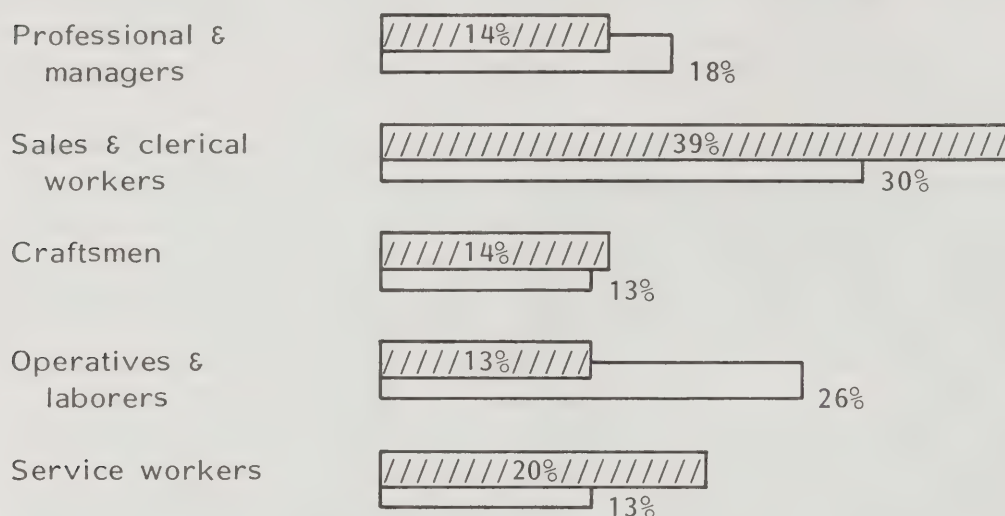
followed by wholesale and retail trade (19%), government (16%), the manufacture of durable and nondurable goods (15%), transportation, communication, and utilities (13%), construction (6%), services (5%), finance (4%), and agriculture and mining (0.4%). (See Table 22 and Figures 8 and 9.) In comparison to all Chicago workers, the Irish had a significantly higher participation in transportation, communication, and utilities, the professions, and most particularly government. They had a lower participation in finance and especially manufacturing.

Chicago's Irish males were overrepresented in construction, transportation, communication, and utilities, and government, and were underrepresented in manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, and finance. The most striking differences were in manufacturing and government. Among Chicago's general male workforce, by far the greatest number, well over a third, worked in manufacturing. Among Irish males, however, less than a sixth were in

manufacturing. On the other hand, a quarter of all Irish workingmen were employed by government, four times the rate for the general male workforce.

Irish women in Chicago's workforce were overrepresented in transportation, communication, and utilities, and especially the professions (37% of all Irish workingwomen). They were underrepresented in finance and particularly manufacturing.

CHICAGO



SUBURBS

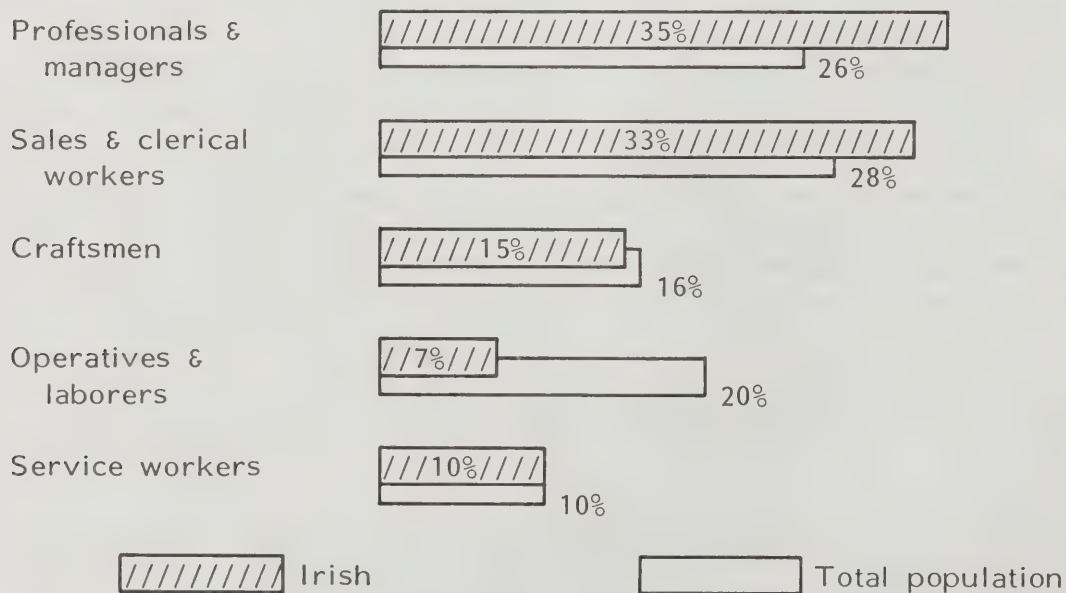


Figure 7. Occupation classification of employed Irish and total populations aged 16 and over, Chicago and suburbs, 1970

TABLE 22. INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYED IRISH AND TOTAL POPULATIONS AGED 16 AND OVER, CHICAGO AND SUBURBS, 1970

Industry Group	Chicago		Suburbs	
	Irish	Total	Irish	Total
<i>ALL PERSONS</i>				
Agriculture, etc. & mining	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%	1.0%
Construction	5.8	3.6	9.7	5.8
Manufacturing	14.8	32.0	19.0	32.7
Transportation, communication & utilities	13.4	7.8	7.7	7.7
Wholesale & retail trade	19.0	20.0	17.9	21.1
Financial	4.0	9.6	9.2	9.0
Services	5.4	5.2	6.2	4.0
Professional	21.7	15.4	23.1	15.4
Government	15.5	6.0	6.2	3.3
<i>MALES</i>				
Agriculture, etc. & mining	0.0%	0.6%	1.6%	1.4%
Construction	9.9	5.7	14.3	8.5
Manufacturing	17.4	36.5	21.8	38.1
Transportation, communication & utilities	16.8	10.3	9.8	9.4
Wholesale & retail trade	13.0	19.3	17.1	18.9
Financial	3.1	7.9	10.5	8.3
Services	4.4	3.6	4.6	2.5
Professional	10.6	9.3	15.0	9.4
Government	24.8	6.8	5.3	3.5
<i>FEMALES</i>				
Agriculture, etc. & mining	0.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%
Construction	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.8
Manufacturing	11.2	25.4	12.9	23.0
Transportation, communication & utilities	8.6	4.3	3.2	4.7
Wholesale & retail trade	27.6	21.0	19.4	25.3
Financial	5.2	12.1	6.5	10.2
Services	6.9	7.4	9.7	6.3
Professional	37.0	24.0	40.3	26.2
Government	2.6	5.0	8.0	3.0

Suburban Irish were most frequently employed in the professions (23%), after which came manufacturing (19%), wholesale and retail trade (18%), construction (10%), finance (9%), transportation, communication, and utilities (8%), government (6%), services (6%), and agriculture and mining (1%). In relation to Chicago Irish, the suburban Irish were more likely to work in construction, manufacturing, and finance, and were less likely to work in transportation, communication, and utilities and government. Within the suburban workforce, the Irish were employed to an above average degree in construction, services, the professions, and government, and to a below average degree in wholesale and retail trade and especially manufacturing.

CHICAGO

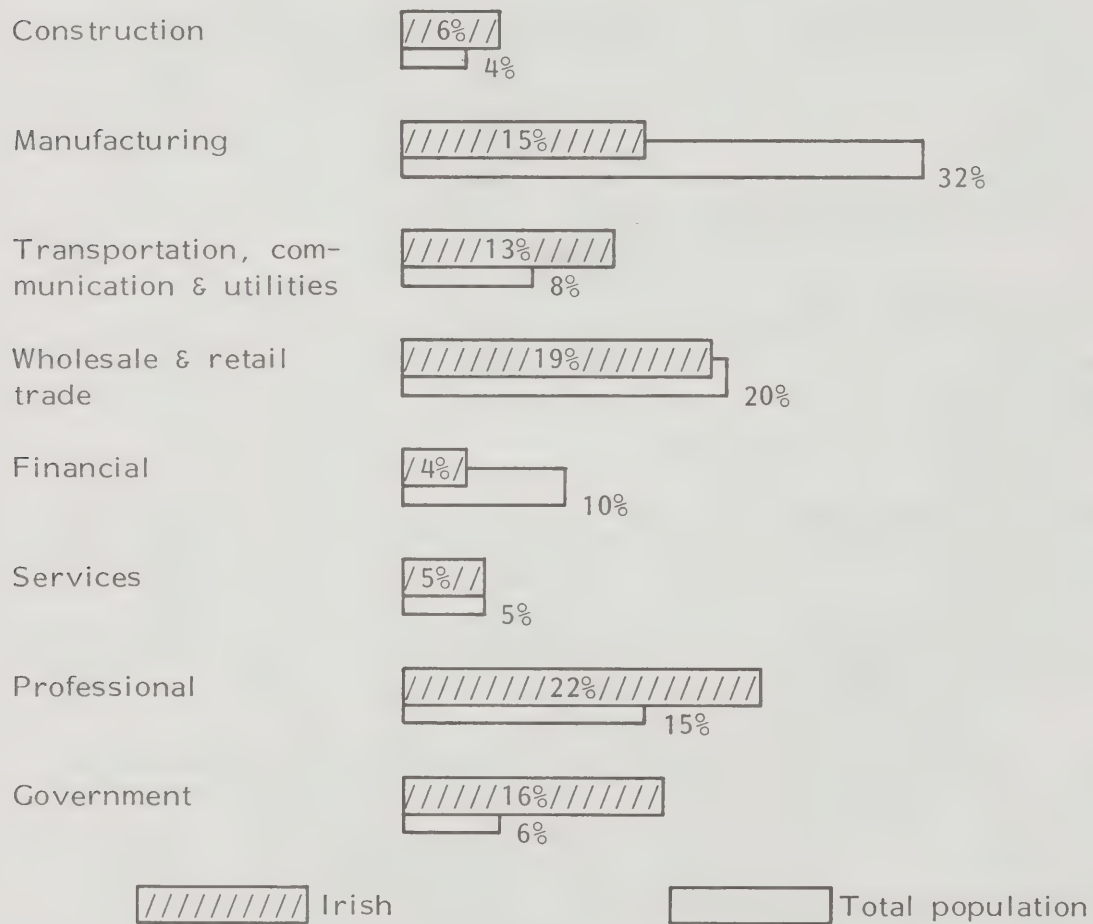


Figure 8. Industry classification of employed Irish and total populations, Chicago, 1970

SUBURBS

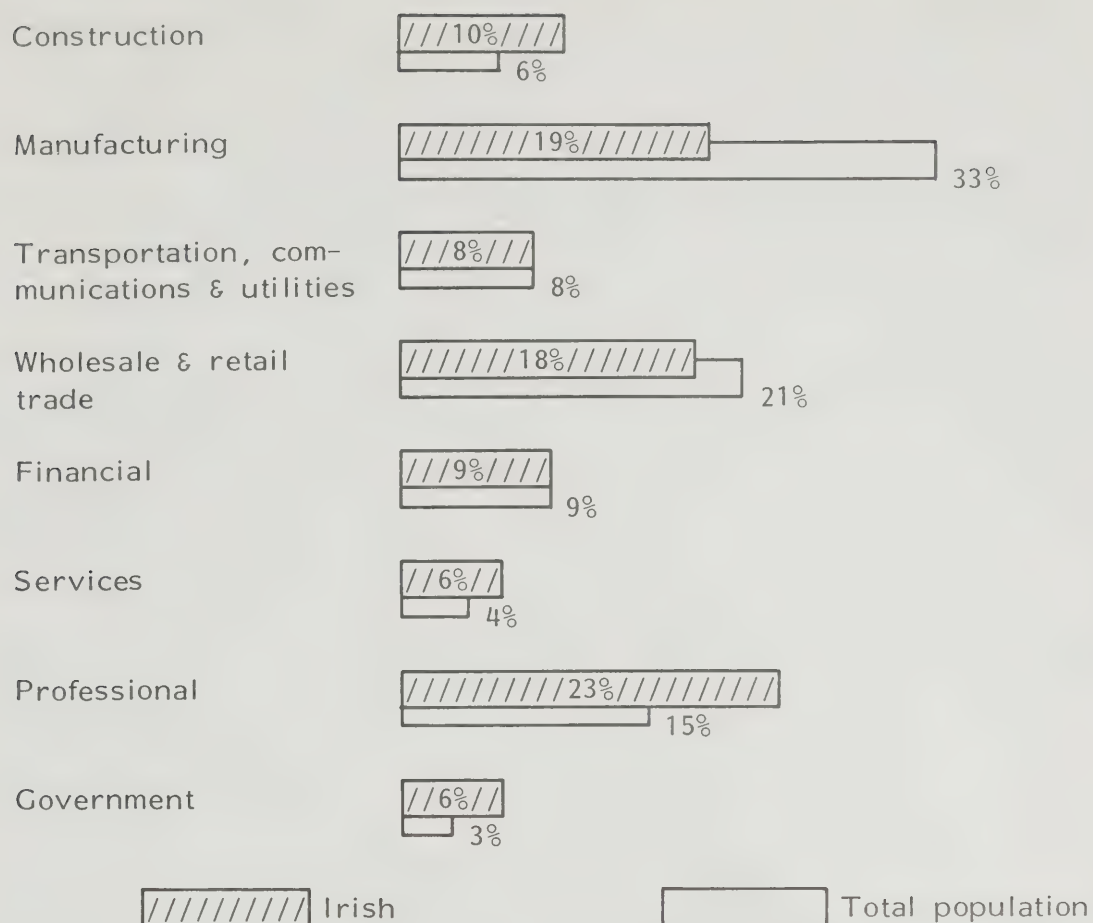


Figure 9. Industry classification of employed Irish and total populations, suburbs, 1970

Glossary of Census Terms

Born abroad of American parents designates persons born in a foreign country of parents who were American citizens.

Census regions:

Northeast

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts

New Hampshire
New Jersey

New York
Pennsylvania

Rhode Island
Vermont

North Central

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa

Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota

Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota

Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

South

Alabama
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida

Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland

Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina

Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

West

Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado

Hawaii
Idaho
Montana

Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon

Utah
Washington
Wyoming

Dropouts, for purposes of this report, are those persons aged 16–25 who, at the time of the census, had not finished high school and were no longer attending school.

Family consists of two or more persons living in the same household who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. Foreign-stock families are those in which the head of the family is either foreign born or native born of foreign parentage.

Foreign stock includes the native population of foreign or mixed parentage and the foreign-born population.

Foreign born are persons who were born outside the United States or its possessions.

Native-born ethnics are those persons born in the United States or one of its possessions but who had at least one foreign-born parent. If the parents were both foreign born, but in different countries, the father's country of birth was used for classification.

Gross rent is the monthly rent plus the average monthly cost of utilities and fuel.

Group quarters include institutions, rooming houses, military barracks, college dormitories, convents, monasteries, etc.

Home value is the respondent's estimate of how much the property would sell for on the current market or (for vacant-for-sale units) the asking price at the time of enumeration. Value was collected only for one-family houses (one-unit structures), detached or attached, which were owner-occupied or vacant-for-sale. Cooperatives, condominiums, mobile homes, trailers, and two or more unit owner-occupied structures were excluded from the value tabulations.

Household includes all the persons who occupy a room or group of rooms which constitute a housing unit. Foreign-stock households are those in which the head of the household was either foreign-born or native-born of foreign parentage.

Income is ascertained for all persons 14 years of age and over for the preceding calendar year (1969), even if they had no income. Total income is the sum of the dollar amounts of money respondents reported receiving (best estimate if exact amount not known) as wages or salary income, net nonfarm and farm self-employment income, and other income (dividends, interest, social security, public assistance, pensions, etc.). In statistics on family income, the combined incomes of all members of each family are treated as a single amount. Income of unrelated individuals is classified by the amount of their own (individual) total income.

Industry was divided by the 1970 census into 12 major groups, which have been consolidated into 9 categories for this report.

Agriculture and Mining include agriculture, forestry, fishing, horticulture, mining, petroleum extraction, quarrying, and others.

Construction includes general and special building trade contractors.

Manufacturing includes the production of wood products, glass, metals, machinery, precision equipment, as well as food, tobacco, textiles, clothing, chemicals, printing, and others.

Transportation, Communications, and Utilities includes railways, bus lines, warehousing, broadcasting, telephone, electricity, gas, water, sanitary service, and others.

Wholesale and Retail Trade includes the sale of durable and nondurable goods.

Financial and Business Services includes banking, insurance, real estate, advertising, computer services, automobile repair, and others.

Personal Services includes private households, hotels, laundries, barber shops, theaters, bowling alleys, and others.

Government includes the postal service, federal, state, and local public administration.

Labor force includes persons classified as employed, unemployed seeking employment, and members of the Armed Forces. For purposes of calculating labor force participation in this report, only persons aged 16-64 were considered.

Median is a number so chosen that 50% of the numbers in a series are above it and 50% below it. If, for example, the median age of Chicago females were 30.7 years, 50% of all Chicago females would be older than 30.7 years and 50% would be younger.

Mother tongue is the language reported as having been spoken in the person's home when the individual was a child.

Occupation was divided by the 1970 census into 12 major groups, which are consolidated into 5 categories for this report.

Professionals and Managers include engineers, physicians, teachers, accountants, computer programmers, clergymen, controllers, bank officers, buyers, administrators, postmasters, and others.

Sales and Clerical Workers include advertising agents, salesmen, insurance agents, sales clerks, bank tellers, mail carriers, typists, and others.

Craftsmen include automobile mechanics, airconditioning, heating, and refrigeration repairmen, sheet metal workers, carpenters, masons, and others.

Operatives and Laborers include assemblers, inspectors, gas station attendants, meat cutters, machine operatives, bus and truck drivers, deliverymen, construction laborers, garbage collectors, farmers, farm laborers, and others.

Service Workers include maids, janitors, waiters, practical nurses, airline stewardesses, barbers, childcare workers, firemen, policemen, private household workers, and others.

Overcrowded housing units are those units which average more than one person per room.

Participation rate is the percent of the population 16 to 64 years old in the labor force.

Poverty index, adopted by a federal interagency committee in 1969, establishes a guideline according to which families can be classified as being above or below the poverty level. This index takes into account such factors as family size, number of children, and farm or nonfarm residence, as well as the amount of money income. The poverty level is based on an "economy" food plan designed by the Department of Agriculture for "emergency or temporary use when funds are low." The definition assumes that a family is classified as poor if its total money income amounts to less than approximately three times the cost of the "economy" food plan. These cutoff levels are updated every year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

The Chicago Standard Consolidated Area (SCA) includes Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties in Illinois, and Lake and Porter counties in Indiana.

Suburbs designates that portion of the Standard Consolidated Area (SCA) which lies outside the city of Chicago.

Unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Unrelated individuals are persons not living with relatives, but living in a household entirely alone or with one or more other unrelated persons or living in group quarters (except inmates of institutions).

NOTE: All of the data in Tables 1 and 2 were derived from published census sources; these sources were also used for the data on the total populations of both Chicago and the suburbs found in Tables 7-11 and 13-18, and in Figures 2, 3, 4, and 6.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

J. Bradley Rome designed the data specifications.

Computer programming and technical assistance were provided by Marie Bousfield and Bohdan Pleshkewych. Additional programming assistance was provided by William Ferrier of the City of Chicago Datacenter.

Charles Bates, Alvin Cameron, Michael Dereng, and Arlene Tuman helped in producing the final report.

The photographic contributions of Laszlo Kondor and Colleen W. Smith are gratefully acknowledged.

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